

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A secondary electrochemical cell capable of receiving a predetermined charge rate, comprising:

positive and negative terminals connected to a cathode and anode, respectively, for delivering power;

a can defining the positive and negative terminals and containing the cathode and anode; and

a label surrounding an outer periphery of the can having a first resistance; and
a band made from an ink that is printed onto the label at a predetermined location, wherein the band has a resistance ~~within a predetermined range~~ between 1 k Ω and 250 k Ω .

2. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 1, wherein the band has a second resistance less than the first resistance.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The cell as recited in claim ~~[[3]]~~ 2, wherein the first resistance is greater than 500 k Ω .

5. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 1, further comprising a switch that opens the connection between the positive electrode and the positive terminal when an internal cell pressure exceeds a predetermined level.

6. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 1, further comprising an abrasion-resistant layer surrounding the band.

7. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 1, wherein the band is printed using a conductive ink.

8. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 1, wherein the band is printed using a conductive carbon ink.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 8, wherein the band comprises a layer having mixed conductive carbon inks.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 7, wherein the band comprises separate stacked layers of conductive inks.

14. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 8, wherein the band comprises separate stacked layers of conductive carbon inks.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The cell as recited in claim 1, ~~further comprising one of wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of~~ a NiMH cell, an alkaline cell, a Lithium Ion cell, and a lead acid cell.

17. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 1, wherein the band is disposed proximal the negative end of the cell.

18. (Original) A secondary electrochemical cell capable of receiving a predetermined charge rate, comprising:

positive and negative terminals connected to a cathode and anode, respectively, for delivering power;

a can defining the positive and negative terminals and containing the cathode and anode; and

a label surrounding an outer periphery of the can having a first resistance, wherein the label includes a band disposed at a predetermined location on the band, wherein the band has a second resistance between 1 k Ω and 100 k Ω .

19. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the first resistance is greater than 500 k Ω .

20. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, further comprising a switch that opens the connection between the positive electrode and the positive terminal when an internal cell pressure exceeds a predetermined level.

21. (Currently Amended) The cell as recited in claim ~~[[16]]~~ 18, further comprising an abrasion-resistant layer surrounding the band.

22. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the band is printed using a conductive ink.

23. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the band is printed using a conductive carbon ink.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the band comprises a layer having mixed conductive inks.

26. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the band comprises a layer having mixed conductive carbon inks.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the band comprises separate stacked layers of conductive inks.

29. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the band comprises separate stacked layers of conductive carbon inks.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The cell as recited in claim 18, ~~further comprising one of wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of~~ a NiMH cell, an alkaline cell, a Lithium Ion cell, and a lead acid cell.

32. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the band is disposed proximal the negative end of the cell.

33. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 18, wherein the band surrounds the label.

34. (Original) A secondary electrochemical cell capable of receiving a predetermined charge rate, comprising:

positive and negative terminals connected to a cathode and anode, respectively, for delivering power;

a can defining the positive and negative terminals and containing the cathode and anode; and

a label surrounding an outer periphery of the can having a first resistance, wherein the label includes a band disposed on the label at a predetermined location, and wherein the band has a resistance within a predetermined range that identifies the cell as containing an internal pressure-responsive switch that terminates the connection

between the positive terminal and the positive electrode when an internal cell pressure level exceeds a predetermined threshold.

35. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 34, configured to receive a charge current greater than 4 Amps.

36. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 34, further comprising an abrasion-resistant layer surrounding the band.

37-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) The cell as recited in claim ~~[[39]]~~ 34, ~~further comprising one of~~ wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of a NiMH cell, an alkaline cell, a Lithium Ion cell, and a lead acid cell.

41. (Original) The cell as recited in claim 34, wherein the band is disposed proximal the negative end of the cell.

Claims 42-77. (Canceled)

78. (New) The cell as recited in claim 34, wherein the band has a second resistance less than the first resistance.

79. (New) The cell as recited in claim 34, wherein the second resistance is between 1 k Ω and 100 k Ω .

80. (New) The cell as recited in claim 34, wherein the second resistance is between 1 k Ω and 250 k Ω .

81. (New) The cell as recited in claim 34, wherein the first resistance is greater than 500 k Ω .

82. (New) The cell as recited in claim 34, wherein the band is printed using a conductive ink.

83. (New) The cell as recited in claim 82, wherein the band is printed using a conductive carbon ink.

84. (New) The cell as recited in claim 83, wherein the band comprises a layer having mixed conductive carbon inks.

85. (New) The cell as recited in claim 82, wherein the band comprises separate stacked layers of conductive inks.